

## 4.

The Pericopidae (Moths) of Kartabo, British Guiana, and Caripito, Venezuela.<sup>1</sup>

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[This contribution is the result of various expeditions of the Department of Tropical Research of the New York Zoological Society to British Guiana and to Venezuela, all under the direction of Dr. William Beebe. The Guiana expeditions were made during the years 1917, 1919, 1920, 1921 and 1924. The expeditions were arranged so that each month of the year is represented in the collections. The Venezuelan expedition, in 1942, during which field work was carried on from February 19 to September 2, was sponsored by grants from the Committee for Inter-American Artistic and Intellectual Relations and from four trustees of the Zoological Society, George C. Clark, Childs Frick, Laurence S. Rockefeller and the late Herbert Satterlee, and by invaluable assistance from the Standard Oil Companies of New Jersey and Venezuela.]

A total of eight species of Pericopidae were collected at Kartabo and four at Caripito. One species from British Guiana and two species from Caripito are new locality records for their respective countries. One species common to both British Guiana and Venezuela is represented by a new race in Venezuela.

*Eucyane bicolora* (Sulzer).

Sulzer, Gesch. Ins., t. 22, f. 6 (Expl. Tab.) 1776) (Noctua).

Three specimens taken at Kartabo, two on October 11 and one on December 2. The species has been reported from the Guianas, South Brazil and Peru.

*Eucyane temperata* Walker.

Walker, List. Lep. Ins. Brit. Mus., 7, p. 656 (1856).

One specimen taken at Caripito on July 11. The species has been reported from South Brazil, Guianas and Colombia, so this is a new record for Venezuela.

*Pericopis catilina catilina* (Cramer),  
new status.

Cramer, Pap. Exot., 1, t. 79. f. E. F. (1775) (Attacus).

In my opinion *Dysschema brotes* (Druce) (*Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.*, 15 s. 6, p. 48 1895 *Anthomyza*) is only the male form and thus synonym of *Pericopis catilina catilina*. The males in collections are usually named *brotes*

and the females *catilina*. The male specimens match Druce's description better since the males are usually blackish-brown rather than the cinnamon brown typical of the females. Furthermore, the character given in the literature to separate the genus *Dysschema* from *Pericopis* is not valid. This character, the length of the pinnae of the antennae double the width of the shaft, is a male sexual character typical of many of the species of *Pericopis*. I am not synonymizing the genus *Dysschema* since the genotype *tiresias* is not available, but the present generic character does not justify the genus. Thus, on the basis of this character the male specimens of *catilina* are assignable to *Dysschema*, hence *brotes*, and the females to *Pericopis*, hence *catilina*.

One male captured at Kartabo on May 24. Recorded from Brazil, Guianas and Colombia.

*Pericopis catilina angustilineata*, new  
sub-species.

Specimen	Sex	Date	Length of forewing	Type
42487	male	March 15	35 mm.	Holotype
42488	female	March 16	38 mm.	Allotype
4239	male	March 11	38 mm.	Paratype
42489	male	April 15	35 mm.	Paratype
42490	male	March 15	37 mm.	Paratype
42491	male	June 5	35 mm.	Paratype
42492	female	April 8	38 mm.	Paratype

Head as in *c. catilina*. In the male the length of the pinnae of the antennae is twice the width of the antennal shaft, while in the female the pinnae are barely as wide as the antennal shaft.

Ground color of both the fore and hindwings blackish-brown to cinnamon brown with bands of greenish-yellow.

The forewing with two semi-hyaline greenish-yellow bands, one median and the other apical as in *c. catilina* with brown or brownish-black veins crossing the bands. The bands differ from those of *c. catilina* in being much reduced; little more or not more than half the width of the bands of *c. catilina*. If one assumes the nomenclatural type to be ancestral, the reduction of the bands has been caused by the encroachment of the brown or blackish-brown scales on both sides of the bands. This is most easily discerned in the median band. The inner side of the band in *c. catilina* crosses the wing nearer to the

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point where vein  $Cu_2$  forks from the cubital stem than it does in *c. angustilineata*. Similar results are obtained if one measures basally from the point where vein  $Cu_1$  forks from the cubital stem. In both *c. catilina* and *c. angustilineata*, but particularly in the latter, the encroachment of the ground color on the yellow bands may be seen. The brown scales on the margins of the bands are duller and lighter than the surrounding ground color. This is variable, being more evident in some specimens than others and occurring indiscriminately along the length of the bands. It is most noticeable and frequent on the median bands. The white spots along the outer margin of the forewing are evident to varying degrees. Their place is taken by the brown or blackish-brown scales making up the background. However, all specimens have a streak of white scales on the outer side of the yellow spot which terminates the apical band in cell  $M_3$ . The spots in cells  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  appear to vanish first since they are faintly discernible in only one specimen.

The hindwings of *angustilineata*, as in *catilina*, are yellow hyaline for half the length of the wings from the base with a large yellow spot beyond in cells  $M_1$  and  $M_2$ . *Pericopis c. angustilineata* differs in that this large yellow spot is separated from the basal patch by a distance approximately twice that of *catilina*. The part of the basal facies that extends into the proximal part of cell  $Cu_1$  is much smaller in *angustilineata* than in *catilina*. The ground color along the inner margins of the hindwings encroaches more on the yellow basal area in *angustilineata* than in *catilina*.

The specimens were all collected during the day while flying. No specimens of Danaidae or Heliconiinae were captured or seen in the same area, though the general appearance and flight of *angustilineata* is suggestive of various members of either of the above groups. The specimens were captured in an area of about one hundred meters' diameter near the end of an unmaintained road going to an abandoned oil well "No. 1". The locality is approximately ten miles west of Caripito, State of Monagas, eastern Venezuela. The area the specimens came from is parched during the dry season, flooded during the wet and characterized by numerous palms and small to very moderate-sized seasonal trees.

***Pericopis tricolora tricolora* (Sulzer).**

Sulzer, Gesch. Ins., t. 22, f. 5 (1776) (Noctua).

Three specimens taken at Kartabo; two females on March 22 and one male on November 24. Recorded from eastern Peru, Amazonas and Guiana.

***Dysschema heliconides* (Swainson).**

Swainson, Zool. 111. (2), 3, t. 124, f. 3 (1833) (Anthomyza).

One specimen collected at Kartabo in 1920. Recorded from the Amazons, Guianas, Colombia and Peru.

***Hyalurga fenestra* (Linnaeus).**

Linnaeus, Syst. Ent. (ed. 10), 1, p. 505, n. 41 (1758) (Phalaena).

One specimen collected at Kartabo which represents a new record since the species has only been reported from Brazil and Peru.

***Hyalurga sixola* Schaus.**

Schaus, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., (8), 6, p. 206 (1910).

A total of seven specimens was taken at Caripito; the males on March 20 (two specimens), April 5, May 12, and May 16 and the females on April 15 and July 2. Recorded from Venezuela and Colombia.

***Hyalurga mysis* (Erichson).**

Erichson in Schoenburgk, Brit. Guiana, 3, p. 606 (1848) (Glaucopis).

A female from Kartabo on May 25. Has only been found in British Guiana.

***Hyalurga modesta* Moschler.**

Verh. Zool.-bot. Ges. Wien, 27, p. 663, t. 9, f. 29 (1877).

One female at Kartabo on August 19. Recorded from Guiana and Colombia.

***Hyalurga partita* (Walker).**

Walker, List. Lep. Ins. Brit. Mus., Het. 2, p. 335, n. 27 (1854) (Diopis).

Four female specimens at Kartabo; two with no date and the remaining two specimens on November 21 and December 21. One female at Caripito on March 21. Recorded from Brazil, Guianas, Venezuela and Peru.